

Quiet Contributor
Sophomore Danny Sumner's elevated play has the College on a five-game winning streak.
See SUMNER page 8



Fitness on campus
From intramurals to Fitwell classes, student involvement in fitness is ever increasing.
See FITNESS page 6

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

'We're all in need'

Governor Tim Kaine speaks on the importance of 'civic engagement'

By BRIAN MAHONEY
Flat Hat News Editor

A \$3 million budget cut for the College will not impede its nation-leading commitment to international and domestic service.

That's what Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine told The Flat Hat after he spoke to students last Friday about the value of service in the University Center atrium.

"I think they're already showing it," Kaine said when asked if student service organizations would be able to cope with the state-mandated 6.25 percent budget cut for the College. Kaine said that while he had no plans to provide funding in his budget for service organizations, the College would still be able to continue its "civic engagement," both domestically and internationally.

"The economy goes up and down," Kaine said, stressing the importance of statewide fiscal sacrifice. Kaine has already cut more than 300 million dollars in spending to balance the Virginia budget, but said he planned to implement "capital expansion plans" to alleviate the state's financial crisis, which includes a predicted \$641 million shortfall at the end of the fiscal year, June 30.

Little was spoken Friday about the cuts and what — if any — effect they would have on student volunteer services. The event was meant as a pep talk for the College's volunteers.

"Gov. Kaine has been an avid supporter of [the College's] service efforts having met with students involved in service activities on several occasions the past three years," said Dr. Drew Stelljes, the Director of the office of Student Volunteer Services.

Stelljes also said that Kaine met with leaders of various service organizations before his speech Friday.

"I am certain he is impressed," Stelljes said.

In terms of service, the College needs little goading; according to the OSVS, it has the most international service trips per year — 19 in all — of any College in the country and is the fifth largest producer of Peace Corps volunteers among medium-sized universities. That is, according to Provost Geoffrey Feiss, the highest number of Peace Corps volunteers per capita of any research university in the United States.



TOM MACWRIGHT — THE FLAT HAT
Gov. Tim Kaine spoke to students Friday in the U.C. atrium about volunteering and community service.

Funding may be a different story. While the College has received generous support for its volunteer work, the increasing number of service trips, while welcomed by the College, has put a strain on available funds.

"We received an infusion of financial support four years ago and at the time, with three international trips, the funding was significant. Now with close to 20 trips, the same funding is spread among the trips and therefore leaves each trip responsible for the vast majority of fundraising," Stelljes said. "We are all working diligently to find significant sources of funding for the [international service trip] program."

Stelljes remains enthusiastic about the College's growing service community, which he continually describes as a "movement."

"We now have more international service trips than any other school. It is an accomplishment we are all so very proud of. With additional funding we can examine the social, cultural, and political influences of the region we are working."

On Friday, student volunteers seemed largely

See KAINE page 3

TOWN AND GOWN RELATIONS

Harrison house loses city \$27,000

Williamsburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority to lose money converting house from rental to owner-occupied

By SAM SUTTON
Flat Hat Staff Writer

It appears that the Williamsburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority will lose at least \$27,000 on the sale of a home at 110 Harrison Avenue in an effort to convert the former rental property into an owner-occupied residence.

The reportedly dilapidated property was purchased in March of last year by the

WRHA after chemistry professor David Kranbuehl notified the city of its availability. According to Sharon Scruggs, chairman of the WRHA, city loans funded the purchase and subsequent renovations of the property, totaling \$416,000 in costs.

The house re-entered the market at \$425,000 under the stipulation that the new owners

live in the house, and not rent it out to anyone else. Eventually, the listing price dropped down to \$389,000 — \$27,000 less than what the WRHA spent on the property. Nationwide, housing prices have been falling.

See HOUSE page 4



BEAU BLUMBERG — THE FLAT HAT
This house, at 110 Harrison Ave., was purchased by the city to convert it from rental to owner-occupied.

SATURDAY SNOWFALL



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT
Students walk along the Sunken Garden Saturday while snow falls. Accumulation was between two and three inches.

TOWN AND GOWN RELATIONS

William or Mary for city council?

Students can now vote in high numbers, but none are yet running for office

By BRAD CLARK
Flat Hat Staff Writer

With Williamsburg voter registrar-student tensions finally settled for the time being, a perception seems to be gaining strength on campus and in the community that students could wield significant influence in the May 6 city council election.

"Students need to realize the incred-

ible opportunity of this election," Gary Shelly, a Williamsburg landlord and local guru of student rights issues, said. "They can initiate a real change in the community, but only if they get out and vote on Election Day."

New Registrar Winifred Sowder has eased student-focused voting restrictions to levels unseen since 2004, when former Registrar R.W. Davis first denied students the right to vote in Williamsburg. After facing a series of significant and sometimes bizarre obstacles to initiate student voting by Davis and next by former Registrar Dave Andrews over the course of the next few years, Sowder's appointment has mobilized campus political leaders who want student voices to be heard at a community-wide level.

"The Student Assembly has allocated a large sum to politicizing and increasing student awareness on the campus in the run up to the election," said SA President Zach Pilchen.

Student Assembly plans for the spring semester include a large get-out-the-vote campaign and hosting a debate for City Council candidates. Pilchen stressed, however, that the SA's role did not include endorsing a specific candidate.

"That's not going to be the goal of this campaign. Legally, the SA can't even give money to the Young Democrats or Republicans, so endorsing candidates isn't a possibility, nor would it be fair. Our goal is to create a student voting bloc

See CITY COUNCIL page 3

Nude calendars delayed

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

The Student Environmental Action Coalition drew attention at the end of last semester when it announced the release of a nude calendar featuring students posing with environmental props. The calendar was meant to raise awareness

of environmental issues and funds for the student group.

Unfortunately, the calendar has yet to be printed.

"In the rush to study for exams, independent members of SEAC were only able to get together about \$500 of pre-orders for calendars," said Zach Pilchen, the Student Assembly President

and the SEAC member who proposed the idea of a nude calendar.

Pilchen said that money from the SEAC treasury will be used to order more calendars, which will later be sold. He said the group expects to sell 200 calendars and raise \$1,600 for environmental initiatives.



COURTESY GRAPHIC — SEAC
Students pose to promote environmentalism.

NEWS INSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

In last Friday’s issue, the article titled, “Student Assembly votes for sex,” The Flat Hat incorrectly stated that S.A. Senator Ray Ciabattoni’s class year was ’09. His class year is ’10.


Weather

Tuesday




High 49°
Low 38°

Wednesday



High 44°
Low 31°

Thursday



High 41°
Low 22°

Source: www.weather.com

Quote of the Week

“You do have to be humble enough to recognize that we’re all in need, and we’re all in need of help from somebody else.”
— Governor Tim Kaine on the lessons he learned on humility from his time in Honduras.
See **KAINE** page 1

News in Brief

College ranked 5th for Peace Corps Volunteers

A recent report by the Peace Corps revealed that with 51 undergraduate alumni volunteers, the College was the 5th-highest producer of Peace Corps volunteers among medium-sized colleges and universities. Since the Peace Corps was established in 1961, 499 College undergraduate alumni have volunteered for the organization, making the College the 82nd-highest producer of volunteers of all time. Last year, the College placed 6th in recruitment rankings.
Only three other Virginia institutions made the list. James Madison University and Virginia Tech both received 14th and 25th, respectively, in the large university category. The University of Virginia ranked first in the medium university category with 72 volunteers.

College to test emergency alert system Wednesday

The College will test its emergency alert system tomorrow at noon. The test will include a sounding of the alarms and a message sent through the notification system.
The alarms will begin with three 10-second bursts followed by a three-minute continuous sounding. Voice and text messages will then be transmitted to the nearly 10,000 registered phone numbers.
“This is our standard test of the system,” College Spokesman Brian Whitson said. “We will be conducting this test at the beginning of each semester and in the summer.”
The 120-decibel alarms can be heard across campus and in the surrounding community.

— By Isshin Teshima and Alex Guillén

By the Numbers

\$8 million
The amount spent annually on financial aid at the College.

12 percent
The proportion of Australians who claim to be members of the “Mile High Club.” A survey by a travel company found that almost half of respondents said they wanted to have a sexual encounter on a plane but had not done so yet.

50 percent
The amount by which the Danish suicide rate has fallen in the last 25 years. The reduction is often credited to a concerted effort by the country to improve counseling services. Danish and other Scandinavian suicide rates are now on par with other developed countries.

2,719,142
The number of daily active users of the most popular Facebook application, “Top Friends.” The application allows users to select their best friends, who get a separate box on their page.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO — WIKIPEDIA COMMONS
The Pratt School of Engineering draws many foreign students every year, including many from India.

BEYOND THE BURG

Duke University doctoral student shot dead

Crime marks third murder of an Indian student in a month

By **ISSHIN TESHIMA**
Flat Hat Insight Editor

Concerns about safety on American university campuses has been raised once again as a Duke University doctoral student was found murdered last Friday in his campus apartment.
Abhijit Majato, an Indian national who was working toward a doctorate in computational mechanics at the university, was found shot to death on Duke’s campus.
The crime, which was the third murder of an Indian doctorate student at an American university in the last month, has caused Duke administrators to raise serious questions about the safety of American universities nationwide.
Two other Indian doctoral students were found shot exe-

cution-style at Louisiana State University Dec. 17. Authorities still have not been able to solve the Duke and LSU murders and are currently investigating whether the two are connected.
The crimes, have brought about a great wave of emotion from the Indian academic community in the United States. The United States leads the world for the largest Indian student population, with over 250,000 students studying at institutions nationwide and roughly 80,000 students immigrating to the United States each year for international studies.
Duke is one of the most ethnically and racially diverse institutions in the nation, with students from over 117 countries. India is one of the largest contributors of students to Duke.
In response to the student’s

This week in Flat Hat history

1929

John R. Saunders, the Attorney General of Virginia at the time, assured students that the state would not be sending spies to investigate drinking on campus. Governor Harry Byrd had ordered an inquiry following a complaint by Rev. David Hepburn, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Virginia, in reference to an incident at the University of Virginia.

1952

Dr. Charles Marsh, the Chancellor Professor of Economics, was appointed as the acting Dean of the College, effective that February. He was a 1925 graduate of Lawrence College and received his master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois in 1928.

1979

Much controversy surrounded the proposed expansion of Cary Stadium, now Zable Stadium. Many faculty members, students and locals expressed opposition to the plans, citing “esthetic concerns,” potential traffic and parking problems amid fears over an increase in student costs.


1982

The College prepared for the first concert of the year by rock group The Police, which took place at William and Mary Hall. The show was highly anticipated by students, as the three previous concerts booked for the venue had been canceled. The Go-Go’s, an all-girl rock group, were booked as the opener.

— compiled by Sarah Hays


STREET BEAT

What do you think of the upcoming Sex Workers’ Art Show?




I think it’s a good idea.

Phillip Walker ’10




I wouldn’t care either way.

Mikal Salaam ’10



I don’t have a problem with it.

Pat Wang ’10



I’m all for free speech and sex.

Kate McNerney ’08

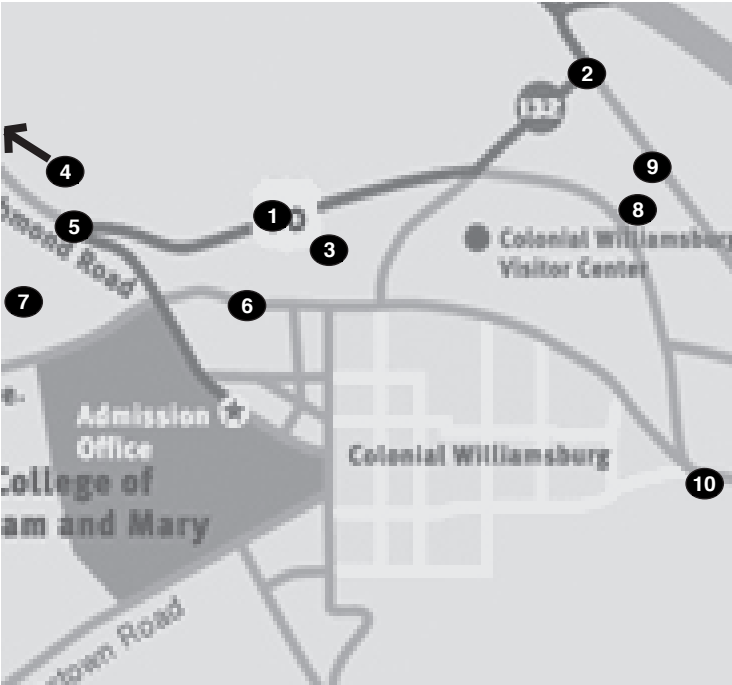
— photos and interviews by Alex Haglund

CITY POLICE BEAT

Dec. 4 to Jan. 14

Tuesday, Dec. 4 — A white male was arrested on the 600 block of Bypass Road for his second driving under the influence offense. **1**
Thursday, Dec. 6 — The theft of an Xbox Elite and various games was reported on the 100

block of Merrimac Trail. **2**
Saturday, Dec. 8 — A laptop was reported stolen on the 900 block of North Henry Street. **3**
Monday, Dec. 10 — A white male was arrested for the second time for driving with a suspended license on the 1500 block of Rich-



mond Road. **4**
Tuesday, Dec. 11 — A white male was arrested on Newport Avenue for driving while intoxicated and possessing marijuana. **9**
Sunday, Dec. 16 — A black male was arrested at the intersection of Richmond Road and Bypass Road for possession of marijuana. **5**
Tuesday, Dec. 18 — The theft of a catalytic converter from a car was reported at the Lafayette Street Parking Lot. A white and black male in a white pickup with a ladder rack and broken bumper are suspected of the theft. **6**
Saturday, Dec. 22 — A white male was arrested on the 1000 block of Ironbound Road for his second DUI offense. **7**
Sunday, Dec. 23 — A black male was arrested on the 900 block of Capitol Landing Road for his second DUI offense and for possession of cocaine. **8**
— A black female was arrested for making annoying phone calls to an address on the 400 block of Merrimac Trail. **9**
Monday, Dec. 24 — A black male was arrested on the 300 block of Merrimac Trail for grand

larceny, two counts of trespassing, and two counts of tampering with an automobile. A laptop and coins were reported stolen. **9**
Wednesday, Dec. 26 — A black male was arrested for assault on the 200 block of New Hope Road. The victim suffered a swollen eye. **5**
Tuesday, Jan. 1 — A black male was arrested on the 500 block of Henderson Street for domestic assault and being drunk in public. No injuries were sustained. **3**
Sunday, Jan. 6 — A white male was arrested at the intersection of Page Street and Capitol Landing Road for his second DUI offense and reckless driving. **8**
Wednesday, Jan. 9 — A white male was arrested on Monticello Avenue for a DUI offense. **7**
Friday, Jan. 11 — A black male was arrested on the 400 block of York Street for driving with a suspended license for the third time. **10**
Monday, Jan. 14 — A 1997 Honda was vandalized on the 900 block of Capitol Landing Road. The suspect is still at large. **8**

— Compiled by Sarah Hays

WINTER WONDERLAND



BRIAN MAHONEY — THE FLAT HAT
Ariel Hunsberger '08 and Amber Roth '08 sled outside McGlothlin-Street Hall during Saturday's snow-fall, which covered Jefferson's statue, while the Sunken Gardens became a center for snowball fights.

Students affect city politics

CITY COUNCIL,from page 1

which will force the candidates to recognize students as an integral part of this community,” said Pilchen. “We’ve already seen the city pursuing more student-friendly policies in the last few months, and this can only increase that awareness.”

Despite optimism from some, others question how much students will affect the election. A primary concern is the lack of any declared candidates who haven’t previously served on the Council and who would, maintain the status quo. Only incumbents Clyde Haulman, vice-mayor and economics professor at the College, and Councilman Paul Frieling have publicly expressed intentions of running for reelection.

Mickey Chohany, who won the highest percentage of voters in 2004, has announced his decision not to pursue another term of office. His decision leaves one spot on the City Council. Recent activities have fueled speculation that a student will run for the office this year. Students contested City Council positions in each of the last two election cycles with David Sievers ’08 receiving 713 votes, just 156 shy of the total needed to assume office, in 2006. Matt Beato ’09, a member of the Colonial District Soil and Water Conservation Board, has been among the names floated as potential candidates. Pilchen, who won the

SA presidential election last spring, has denied rumors that he will run for office.

If a student does run for office, they will be faced with significant obstacles, not the least of which are time constraints.

“The students who have run in recent years for office took the semester off and really focused three months of their lives on the campaign,” said Haulman. “They made really monumental efforts, and, while I encourage students to vote and to run, I haven’t heard yet of any students doing that this time around.”

Another issue that could affect the election is student turnout. While the College campus teems with political activity and the SA hopes to increase political participation, students still represent an age group with a poor voting record nationwide. Voting rights advocates are also concerned that the elections take place during final exams, which may negatively affect student voter turnout.

Despite this, many hold out hope. Over 700 students have already registered to vote in the city — a significant increase over the 70-odd students who came out for Sievers in 2006. Pilchen, though tight-lipped, expressed optimism that a student candidate may emerge.

“I think you may hear something, maybe in the next month or so,” he said pointedly. “But I don’t know anything,” he added quickly.

Governor visits campus

KAINE,from page 1

enthusiastic, with many carrying “I love Kaine” posters and wearing the T-shirts of their respective organizations.

Kaine was accompanied and introduced by College president Gene Nichol, who said that he was “honored to report an explosion of civic engagement, of public service, of advanced citizenship, of applied, ennobling learning that owes both credit to this ancient university and its historic commonwealth.”

The governor was also joined by Judd Kennedy ’08 and Jeree Harris ’08 and the event’s emcee, Cosmo Fujiyama ’07, who returned from her non-profit work in Honduras to lead the night’s discussion.

Fujiyama — who co-founded the charitable organization Students Helping Honduras — said that the forum would allow Kaine, Nichol and the entire nation to see the extent of the service in what she called “our tiny but lively ’Burg, the best ’Burg of Virginia.”

In his speech, Kaine reflected on his own years of international service, when he left Harvard Law School in his second year to work in a Honduran Catholic school, teaching students welding and carpentry skills.

“[The trip] was tremendous in personal growth and spiritual growth,” Kaine said. “It changed my whole life.”

One of the most important values Kaine gained from his time in Honduras was humility, saying that all people find themselves in need, not just those in third world countries.

“We may think we got the whole package: education, family, health, resources or whatever,” Kaine said. “You do have to be humble enough to recognize that we’re all in need, and we’re all in need of help from some-

body else.”

Kaine honored the College for its role in public service, but expressed “pessimism” over declining voter turnout in local and national elections. He responded to Kennedy’s question on the role of the university in fostering democratic activism and social responsibility.

“We’re on the path of creating a new form of government” where everyone has a choice regarding their government, but no one wants to make one.

“Education can further self-ishness, it can further your ability to insulate yourself off from the problems that other people experience in the world or it can give you a great ability to get the skills you can use to serve others,” Kaine said.

Kaine also fielded questions on the environment and his stance on the controversial Sex Workers’ Art Show, which was recently allowed funding by the Student Assembly Finance Committee.

“I gotta admit I’m a little out of the loop,” Kaine said, having never heard of the event or its surrounding controversy. “If colleges are not places of strongly different points of view, than we don’t learn how to be in an environment with strongly different points of view,” he added.

After the event, Nichol and Kaine had dinner with Jim and Barbara Ukrop, prominent donors of the College who graduated in 1960 and 1961 respectively. Nichol would not mention the topic of conversation, but said that he “was always interested in talking to friends of the College.”



TOM MACWRIGHT — THE FLAT HAT
Kaine discussed the College's dedication to community service with students in the University Center last Friday.

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Student playmakers enter work in New York festival

By MEGHAN O'MALLEY
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Mike Johnson '09 and Emily Rossi '09 each had an original work performed in the New York International Fringe Festival (FringeNYC) last August.

FringeNYC is the largest multi-arts festival in North America, with more than 200 companies from all over the world performing for 16 days, according to the FringeNYC website.

Johnson, a music and business major from Burlington, N.C., submitted his work "The Tragic History of Titus Andronicus ... or Tragedy! (A Musical Comedy)." Rossi, a theater major from Strasburg, Va., submitted a one-act play titled "The Hollow Men."

"In high school I read 'Titus' for a class and thought it was so ridiculous in all of its atrocities that it was almost funny. I think it was then that I said, as a joke, that it could make a good musical," Johnson said.

After performing in a Shakespeare in the Dark production of "Titus Andronicus" during his freshman year at the College, Johnson proposed the idea of adapting the play into a musical to Professor Sophia Serghi of the music department for a Monroe project.

"It was easy working with Mike

because he has a really great understanding of the musical theater genre," Serghi said.

Johnson completed the musical during the fall 2006 semester and it was performed twice in the UC Commonwealth Auditorium during the spring 2007 semester.

"Dr. Serghi was my mentor, and when I said, 'I want to write a musical for my Monroe project,' she was the first person to get behind the idea and really encourage it. If she had said, 'That's a dumb idea,' right up front, this wouldn't have happened," Johnson said. "She pretty much left it to me after that, though — always encouraging, but never trying to mess with whatever I had going."

Rossi also received faculty support for her one-act play, which weaves together a story about a Holocaust survivor's memories with the T.S. Eliot poem "The Hollow Men."

She wrote the play for theatre professor Laurie Wolf's playwriting class in the fall of 2006, and Wolf suggested that she submit her play to FringeNYC. At the festival, Wolf directed the one-act while Rossi played the lead role.

"[Professor Wolf] was very hands-on and helpful, and she was a huge help up in New York ... it wouldn't have happened if she hadn't been there," Rossi said.

Students from the College also acted in the play, along with actors from the Virginia Shakespeare Festival and actors found through Craigslist.com.

"[Emily] has a real talent for playwriting, and I'd like to see her carry on with that," Wolf said.



PHOTO COURTESY W&M NEWS
Johnson directs while rehearsing a scene from his play.

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WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Into the Wild (R)

Fri., Jan. 18-Sat., Jan. 19
6:15 and 9 p.m.
Jan. 18 screening room (35 seats)

Lars and the Real Girl (PG-13)

Fri., Jan. 18-Mon., Jan. 21
6:30 and 8:30 p.m.
Jan. 19-20 screening room (35 seats)

Coming Attraction...

Margot at the Wedding (R)

Sun., Jan. 20-Fri., Jan. 25
6:45 and 8:30 p.m.
Jan. 21-23 screening room (35 seats)

Live Performances...

WTYD – Tide Radio's Skookum Music Series Returns
Marc Cohn in Concert

Tues., Jan. 22 at 8 p.m.
All seats \$35

A Benefit Concert for Family Focus – Williamsburg/Grafton
Wiggle, Jiggle, Clap, and Sing Along with Betsy Q

Sat., Jan. 26 at 11 a.m.
General admission \$5.50, Children \$4.50

City loses money on Harrison house sale

HOUSE from page 1

110 Harrison Avenue is one of several residences that the city and the WRHA have purchased and renovated in an effort to re-establish home ownership in Williamsburg neighborhoods.

Information on the purchasing and renovation costs of other properties owned by the city through the WRHA was not made available as public disclosure may inhibit the WRHA's ability to sell the house.

Rental units currently comprise a majority of the residences

in West Williamsburg Heights, a fact that the city council and the WRHA are trying to change.

"The statistic that one neighborhood is over 50 percent rental ... is not healthy for the city," Mayor Jeanne Zeidler said.

She added that the city neither desires to eliminate rentals nor keep students from living in the city, only to balance the ratio of rentals to owner-occupied homes at the benefit of the community.

According to Zeidler, the city allocates \$300,000 to \$500,000 of its budget to housing each

year.

The WRHA uses these funds to purchase and renovate properties.

These properties are then resold, sometimes at a small profit and sometimes at a loss.

The house on Harrison Avenue and homes on Braxton Court are among several properties the WRHA has purchased.

According to Scruggs, the current goal of the WRHA is to provide affordable home ownership opportunities to the working class employed in the many service industry jobs in and around the city.

However, some at the College consider the owner-occupancy clause as well as the WRHA's willingness to take a loss on individual properties as an indication that the city may be trying to impact the availability of off-campus housing to students.

"It's premature to predict how [the transformation of rental units into owner-occupied residences] will affect ResLife," Deb Boykin, director of Residence Life, said, "It may increase the demand for student housing in the future."

Mayor Zeidler dismissed the concern over mandatory owner-occupancy in residential properties sold by the city as negligible as it only pertains to a "handful of houses," adding that the city does not desire to keep College students out of local neighborhoods.

Scruggs admitted that the owner-occupancy clause may not be the best tool in creating home ownership opportunities, but added that the WRHA is not building homes for people to "flip" after purchasing.

Furthermore, he said, the WRHA is not designed to make profits; according to Scruggs, its purpose is to provide affordable housing and hopefully break even marginally from property to property.

According to Andrew Hungarian, interim executive director of the WRHA, affordable housing is a relative term and depends heavily on the earnings of an individual or family.

While \$389,000 may seem out of the price range for many families, it may be a price that

HARRISON HOUSE BY THE NUMBERS

- **\$416,000:** The cost of buying and renovating the house
- **\$425,000:** The price at which the house was first listed
- **\$389,000:** The price at which the house is now listed
- **\$300,000 to \$500,000:** The amount of money that the city spends on housing per year

attracts middle class families to Williamsburg.

Scruggs conceded that the WRHA does not consider specifically how the purchase and redevelopment of rental units may impact student housing, although it recognizes such concerns.

Citing a lack of available land and current zoning restrictions, Scruggs laid out the difficulties faced in creating more readily available student housing in Williamsburg.

"It's a real issue [of] which I'm well-aware," Scruggs said. "I grew up in this town, it wasn't a big deal until recently."

Currently, the influx of retirees in the Williamsburg area has hampered the WRHA's ability to create affordable housing.

The Stop-22 movement kept zoning ordinances from allowing any more than 14 residents per acre.

As a result, fewer and fewer young families can afford to live in Williamsburg, which in turn forces the WRHA to sell renovated former rental units, like 110 Harrison Avenue, at a loss.

This decreases the supply of off-campus housing for students.

Scruggs went on to say that if there were more cooperation between the College and town regarding housing, she would be on board.

Under the MICRSCOPE

SCIENTISTS CREATE STEM CELLS FROM SKIN CELLS

Ethan Theuerkauf
FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST

On Nov. 20, 2007, two scientists revealed that they had determined a method of deriving human embryonic stem cells from human skin cells, a feat that is likely to spark increased research with human stem cells and ease ethical concerns on the matter.

Dr. Shinya Yamanaka of Kyoto University and Dr. James A. Thomson of the University of Wisconsin are responsible for pioneering a method of creating "induced pluripotent stem cells" by adding four genes to human skin cells, causing the skin cells to become blank cells that can be modified into any of the body's cells.

There is some concern that the synthesized stem cells may differ from their natural counterparts, but the scientists are in the process of assessing the differences and believe it will be possible to correct any disparities.

This research may help to quell many ethical concerns over the use of embryonic stem cells in research because cloning is not involved and the donation of eggs is not necessary.

"Everyone was waiting for this day to come. You should have a solution here that will address the moral objections that have been percolating for years," Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, the Director of Education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center, told The New York Times.

The skin cell-derived stem cells will allow for the creation of large quantities of cells and will make research easier. Research involving these stem cells is also much more likely to be federally funded because it does not require egg donations.

Perhaps the most useful application of this type of stem cell technology will be in research on complex diseases.

OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Outrageous rental plan

The latest anti-student measure undertaken by the Williamsburg city council — converting rental housing near the College to owner-occupied units — represents our local tax dollars at work in the most irresponsible and unnecessary way.

The converted houses will be sold to the new owners on the condition that they are never rented without city approval. The subtext of this unfair stipulation is clear: students not wanted.

The first house converted under this plan is already a financial disaster for the city. The house, located near the College on Harrison Avenue, a neighborhood inhabited by both students and older residents, was purchased last year by the city at the urging of Vice Mayor and economics Professor Clyde Haulman. \$416,000 was invested in the house, which is now on the market for \$389,000, resulting in a likely loss of at least \$27,000 for taxpayers. The failure of the pilot project does not bode well for the future of the program and should serve as a warning that the city should not get involved in the volatile housing market, especially during a downturn.

We are saddened that Haulman, who interacts with students daily, would take the position that rentals are unhealthy for the community. Much of Williamsburg’s vibrancy comes from its students. Students are the primary renters in houses near campus, and the primary victims of the city’s plan. Decreasing the already meager

off-campus housing options could push students farther away from campus, and Residence Life has left open the possibility that the city’s plan could impact on-campus housing in the future.

What is most troubling about the council’s plan is that it is not just poor fiscal policy, it is poor social policy. The city says that it is targeting rentals because they are harbingers of unhealthy neighborhoods.

What we see is a city going after the few off-campus options for students that are still within walking distance of the College. The new plan shows the great lengths the city is willing to go to in order to keep students from renting. In the long run, students must continue to send the message to the city that it has nothing to fear from student renters in this college town. In the short run, students need to vote in May to elect council members who support student rights and oppose this city policy.

In our opinion ...

A rundown of The Flat Hat’s opinion on other top stories in this issue:

■ The May 6 city council election represents a monumental opportunity for students at the College. There are three seats on the council up for grabs, and given the fact that more than 700 students have registered to vote in the city since the last election, it seems possible that a student or student-friendly candidate could win a seat. Students considering a campaign for a seat should strongly consider the enormous impact their candidacy could create. See CITY COUNCIL, page 1.

■ The College’s ranking among the top five medium-sized universities for Peace Corps involvement is an impressive feat. What is even more noteworthy is the fact that while the College

currently has under 6,000 undergraduate students, each of the other top five universities have at least 10,000. Readjusting for the number of volunteers per undergrad, the College would surpass its competitors. See NEWS IN BRIEF, page 2.

■ We were honored to host Virginia Governor Tim Kaine on campus last Friday. However, while his commendation for the College’s service to the community is laudable, we are disappointed that Kaine ignored the budget cuts he laid down last spring. The cut in state funding is the most important challenge facing the College, and it was perhaps most disappointing that no one cared enough to question Kaine about it and his continued commitment to higher education. See Kaine, page 1.

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The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor may be no longer than 250 words and Opinions columns no longer than 700 words. Submissions should be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com no later than 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Due to space constraints, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. All staff editorials reflect the position of The Flat Hat. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Sherif Abdelkarim
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



In its Dec. 7 issue, The Flat Hat published “Class on ’68 provokes thought,” a brilliant and insightful piece by Confusion Corner columnist Dan Piepenbring. In it, he notes that our generation is perceived as lazy, apathetic, unintelligent and, worst of all, unsympathetic with regard to our fellow man.

They’ve named us Generation Q and Generation Z, accusing us of being the “New Silent Generation,” alone and uninformed in an ever-expanding world of communication and Wikinformation. They also call us Generation Y, a nation of embittered unbelievers and uncultured Culture War activists.

Yet we’re anything but quiet, and we certainly have our beliefs. Bill Gates got

it right when he named our generation the iGeneration, an impersonal electronic community out of touch with humanity, disconnected from a hyperconnected world. It is out of this familiar, electronic isolation that we’ve become what I like to think of as Generation I.

Generation I is two-fold. First, as Piepenbring communicated through David Foster Wallace’s Commencement speech, we are, at bottom, a lot of self-celebrating narcissists. It is in our image that we paint the world, and our perception of others is appreciated only in relation to the self. This state of violent self-inspection renders it impossible for us to see beyond ourselves, negating the very humanity of our peers and objectifying them as markers of how much better we can be. The virtues in others must only be ours, and so we go about ambitiously outdoing and obsessively overdoing the other. This is how we are hungry.

So, in effect, we have our beliefs. They are as strong and stubborn as any religion

known to man, proselytized by Tyler Durden, practiced by Patrick Bateman. Naturally, the poster boy for this facet of Generation I can be found in the character of Dr. Stephen T. Colbert, Esq.

Between Facebook and phone tapping, no other generation has been so thoroughly examined as our own. Never has there been a mass of people so seri-

Never has there been a mass of people so seriously self-surveiled, so consciously self-inspected, so eagerly self-exploited as us.

ously self-surveiled, so consciously self-inspected, so eagerly self-exploited as us. We are a Generation of “Eyes,” a generation of voyeurs, compulsively seeing, always unseen. We are a nation of gazers, spaced out on MySpace and YouTube. It is out of this perpetual absorption of the insignificances of others that we’ve

become little less than an assorted accumulation thereof.

The other face of Generation I is faceless, an entity whose anonymity trounces that of the Lost Generation and whose post-’60s activism is without action. Our irrelevance is made known to us.

In a last-gasp attempt to prove otherwise, we blog.

The College community is in a rage, heaping its irrelevance onto a given article. They are unforgiving, unyielding and unknown, hiding behind the blanket of a false e-mail address, a friendly first name or an alias. Your given blogger will impersonally attack the character of the author and the integrity of his fellow bloggers in a string of idiocy, incoherence and intentionally incendiary irreverence. Rather than praise an article’s merits or argue a point worth noting, anonymous bloggers beg to differ, disagreeably expressing their misgivings toward a given campus-wide event, activity or known figure — not for the sake of genu-

ine concern, but for their own sake. It is a wonder the belligerent bloggers don’t take up an open forum beneath a relevant, urgent and intelligent article concerning our incapacity for human compassion, opting to rant and rave like mad against a piece on facial hair.

Just as staff writers, guest columnists and featured members of the community are being held accountable for their words, unsympathetic bloggers should be held accountable for their posts. The Flat Hat needs to modify the settings on its website so that some sort of e-mail confirmation takes place before the comment is posted.

Either way, I can guarantee that the Flat Hat writers are uninterested in what these anonymous bloggers have to say. Only a few will build upon the tradition of investigative journalism; most write with either themselves or their future employers in mind as their primary audience.

Sherif Abdelkarim is a junior at the College.

AMERICA'S NEXT top presidential candidate



BY VICKY CHAO, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

Faculty smear culture

George Harris and Paul Davies

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNISTS



Recent articles in the Daily Press and the Virginia Gazette reported a complaint we filed against the College administration for abusing its authority in conducting a program review of the philosophy department last spring. The heart of the matter, however, remains obscure to many.

The best way to see the danger of allowing the administration to conduct business in the way that it did in regard to the philosophy department is to think about the alarm caused by the bias reporting network unilaterally set up by the administration. In assigning itself the authority to use anonymous reporting to regulate discrimination on campus, it never seems to have occurred to the administration that others might be concerned about their abusing that authority. “Why would those who have such a noble goal as preventing discrimination ever abuse their authority?,” they seemed to be asking.

For very good reasons that shouldn’t have to be explained to any intelligent person, the campus community didn’t buy that response and insisted that regulating discrimination through anonymous accusations is a danger to the community that it will not abide.

Such a system would be vulnerable to abuse in all sorts of ways, not only by the administration, but by students, faculty and staff as well. For example, a faction within the faculty with an agenda having nothing to do with preventing discrimination might exploit the system to smear other faculty members in order to advance themselves or their agenda.

Hiding behind anonymity, they could target people to be portrayed as abusers of women or minorities and, over time, spread rumors about what those targeted are like. They could exploit disagreements among faculty members on policy issues by spreading rumors that attribute discriminatory motives to some as a means of empowering themselves. Once the rumor mill (informal talk over lunches, after church, in favorite bars) had done its work, the reporting system would provide access to the administration. Anonymous accusers could then direct the administration to a well-prepared rumor network to confirm their complaints and to escape the respon-

sibility of facing the accused.

How is this relevant to the controversy over the philosophy department?

Here are some publicly verifiable facts:

1. During a routine academic review of an academic program last spring, an external review team composed of faculty from other institutions wrote a report accusing an unnamed block of senior faculty in the philosophy department of abusing women faculty, cultivating a learning environment detrimental to student learning and creating a hostile environment for junior faculty.
2. The accusations were unspecific, unsubstantiated and made anonymously by current and former faculty members.
3. At no point in the review process prior to writing their report did the reviewers reveal to any of the unnamed bloc of senior faculty any of the accusations made in the report or give them an opportunity for rebuttal. They never sought any evidence that might disconfirm the accusations and were

very solicitous of evidence against those accused.

4. Against the written policy governing the program review, the administration released the report to other departments under review as a public document without any of those accused knowing what was in the report and without having any opportunity for rebuttal.

5. The administration cancelled the written requirement of the policy governing the review that called for a department-wide response to the external review report thereby protecting those making the accusations from facing their accusers before the evidence.

6. Despite over nine months of trying, we have yet to be given a formal hearing governed by any public standard of evidence to evaluate our complaint.

What this shows is not just an administration that abjures transparency, but also a faculty culture all too receptive to the anonymity of cloak and dagger politics. We have become a smear culture.

Last week, a former colleague wrote to warn us that if we continued to push these issues, he feared that others might come out against us. He may not have been threatening us, but someone is. We are not intimidated. We will continue to make our case. Anyone who wants to come out of the shadows of anonymity against us is welcome to do so.

Professor George Harris and Associate Professor Paul Davies are members of the College’s philosophy department.

Generation I and belligerent, faceless blogging

VARIETY

UCAB seeks diversity

By CHASE JOHNSON
Flat Hat Executive Editor

With final preparations underway for Mae and the Ying Yang Twins, UCAB is still working toward booking a band for April's spring concert.

UCAB Music Committee Chair Jeanna Occhiogrosso '08 said that she hopes to have a band in place by March. "The band should be settled before Spring Break," she said. "We want to give ourselves at least two months to plan for the actual event."

The process of booking a band for the spring concert is an arduous one that begins many months in advance. "The first thing we look at is when we can have the venue that we need for the concert," Occhiogrosso said. "We usually have the big concert in the spring in [William and Mary] Hall. This year we are looking at Matoaka, but we need to have the Hall as a backup."

Scheduling with the athletics department can be difficult, and usually leaves UCAB with a short list of available dates, an inflexibility that can handcuff the music committee in negotiations with bands.

After the dates are determined, Occhiogrosso said the committee brainstorms a list of about 30 bands, taking into account which bands are touring, student interests and current popularity.

"We also look at Facebook stats to get an idea what students are listing in their interests," Occhiogrosso said. "It's imprecise, but it gives us an idea."

Throughout the process, the committee

tries to bring acts to campus that aren't too similar to previous shows.

"The name of the game is diversity," Occhiogrosso said. "People on campus get so frustrated because they think we're using their money to bring our favorite bands to campus and it's just not true ... We're not a hip-hop booking agency, we're not an indie booking agency, we're not a rock booking agency. We really try to satisfy different tastes on campus."

Once the committee creates the list, it is passed on to Joe Lowder, the assistant director of student activities programming. Lowder contacts the agents for each of the bands, scratching off bands that are no longer touring, don't reply or are asking for more money than UCAB can afford.

Occhiogrosso said it's all about making due with the money that they have available, which is around \$30,000 for the spring concert. A perfect example was the Homecoming concert with Guster last October, which worked because Guster was willing to add a low budget show as the last stop on the band's tour.

Occhiogrosso said her committee has worked tirelessly to bring high quality acts to campus, despite the nearly constant criticism they receive.

"I can feel the general frustration," she said. "But there are so many limiting factors. We're pigeonholed into a couple dates, and we don't have much money to spend. We do the best we can to bring quality bands to campus that reflect the diverse musical tastes of the students."

CONFUSION CORNER

Flat Hat columnists still preoccupied with 1968

James Damon
FLAT HAT COLUMNIST



Looking back on 1968, writer Mark Kurlansky sounds more than just a little forlorn, calling it "the year that rocked the world" in his book by the same name. He is not alone in this sentiment; an entire class at the College devoted themselves to the matter last semester. In his Dec. 8 Confusion Corner column, Dan Piepenbring, characterized our generation as one inept at engaging "the worldwide malaise of 2007."

Piepenbring is right. Enormous world events have occurred in the past year, and 2008 looks to be equally eventful. But frankly, I don't care. While 2007 might have lacked a spirit of rebellion, it certainly excelled in one endeavor: making movies. Never before have so many engaging and entertaining films been made. Though 2007 wasn't considered a year for political revolution, it was certainly was a revolutionary year for film.

Perhaps it is appropriate that my two favorite movies of last year take place in a fantasy world. The first film is "Ratatouille," the eighth release from the Pixar animation studio. What impressed me most about the film was the pacing. It's a lot like Pixar's previous film, "The Incredibles," in that once "Ratatouille" gets going, the film continues at a sprinter's pace. This is the tendency in animation, a medium with historically young audiences and limited lengths.

While earlier animated films, such as "Aladdin" or "Snow White," may have simply pandered to younger audiences, "Ratatouille" is not so limited. Instead, the film struggles with issues like belonging and purpose in a way that would make any philosophy professor proud. The film's length also makes it stand out from previous animated features; unlike the generally lengthier Pixar films: "Ratatouille" clocks in at a short 111 minutes. The film is also well-written, artfully animated, warmly acted and beautifully designed.

I will not claim that "Ratatouille" is unique in pushing animation into the realm of action film; directors like Walt Disney and Hayao Miyazaki started this movement. However, I will argue that the film does a nice job of creating a movie accessible to children and adults while remaining genuinely entertaining. This is no small feat.

My other favorite film of this past year, entitled "Away from Her," takes place in the wintry wonderland known as Canada. In this freshman effort from Canadian director Sarah Polley, a husband struggles with the decision to institutionalize his wife while she fights her own battle with Alzheimer's. Aside from the beautiful cinematography and the riveting performances, the films barely impressed me at most. Polley examines the nature of love as it disintegrates along with her memory.

Polley, who adapted the screenplay from a short story entitled "The Bear Came over the Mountain," does a nice job of organizing the film's around scenes by emotional similarity, rather than chronologically. The organization of the film mimics the confusion that accompanies Alzheimer's, while working to create a distinct viewing experience. Though the ending is heartbreaking, I left with a strange, warm feeling. What I thought was heartburn turned out to be happiness at the film's acceptance of change, a revolutionary conceit.

Both films pushed the envelope of cinema, and many other films last year followed suit. The Coen brothers' "No Country for Old Men" expertly recreated its period landscape. "Sweeney Todd" did a nice job of making gore funny. While this year was not devoid of bad cinema, for every dud there was at least one "3:10 to Yuma" or "Charlie Wilson's War."

Admittedly, 1968 was not a poor year for film either. Audiences of 1968 were treated to numerous now-classics, including "The Lion in Winter." Though such films were revolutionary for their time, today's cinema does not back down from pushing any proverbial envelopes. While "The Lion in Winter" did a nice job of presenting an aging couple, never did it examine aging as a concept, whereas "Away from Her" confronted the pains of aging as they wreck a shared life. Though both are powerful, the honesty of Polley's film resonates with today's audience.

I like quoting Dan Piepenbring, partly because I like quoting my own newspaper, but also because he writes well. In his column on 1968, Piepenbring wrote, "We of the so-called Q generation have a basic inability to empathize with humans other than ourselves." Empathy must be learned, and where better for our generation to learn this skill than in the movies? I'm not saying that good cinema will end war or cure AIDS, but anything is worth a shot.

James Damon is a Confusion Corner columnist. He wrote this column as a love letter to Dan Piepenbring.

Fitwell classes spur a flair for fitness

Fitness-conscious students take advantage of various workout options

By LIANA KLEEMAN
The Flat Hat

Two years ago, Men's Fitness magazine ranked the College 17th on its list of the nation's most fit college campuses. However, two full years have passed since this ranking, raising the question, "Just how fit are we as a campus these days?"

With the fall 2006 opening of the renovated Recreation Center, the face of fitness at the College has changed. Numbers of students participating in activities through the Rec Center have increased.

The Rec Center estimates an 85 percent participation rate among the student population. This percentage reflects far more than the general use of workout facilities, encompassing intramurals, club sports, aquatics, outdoor recreation, the climbing wall and Fitwell. For a \$45 fee, this program allows an individual unlimited access to all Fitwell classes. The program has seen notable growth in student involvement.

Toppling previous participation records, interest in Fitwell peaked this year with the sale of over 300 Fitwell passes. This quantity results partially from the opening of two additional fitness studios, which has allowed the Rec Center to offer over 60 sessions, featuring 20 different classes weekly. The number of new sessions drastically eclipses the 30 to 40 per week offered before renovation.

Assistant Director of Fitness and Wellness Jenny Ruehrmund is pleased to see more students getting involved in the Fitwell program. She believes that part of Fitwell's popularity lies in the unique atmosphere that it offers.

"Fitwell classes add a fun group dynamic to fitness," Ruehrmund said. "Adding music and friends to the workout makes fitness not only more motivating, but simply more enjoyable."

She also mentioned that the many hybrid classes, such as boxilates, have consistently been in high demand. The program may include a class featuring Zumba, a recent fitness craze, as early as next fall. This class involves a combination of Latin dance rhythms mixed with a high-energy aerobic workout.

Tara Kalajian '08 has worked for



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT
Students running along Compton Drive appreciate the scenery of Williamsburg.

Rec Sports for the past three years as an instructor. She has dedicated a significant amount of time and energy to the Fitwell program, leading seven to eight classes per week. As a personal trainer and supervisor for special events and marketing, Kalajian immerses herself in an environment of fitness. She says the high energy and personable atmosphere fuels her passion for exercise.

"I'm hoping to use my experience at Rec Sports as a stepping stone to fitness in the professional world," Kalajian said. "It's my passion for exercise paired with the great work environment that has helped me to realize what I want to do once I graduate."

For students drawn to more team-oriented fitness, the Rec Center offers 45 different club sports, including everything from basketball and rugby to sailing and ballroom dance. Club sports generally attract somewhere between 1,600 and 1,800 students annually.

More casual participants may seek the intramural sports program, which features seven team sports per year and 14 tournaments in sports such as mini golf, dodgeball and racquetball.

The minimal time commitment and fun, competitive atmosphere has always attracted great interest in the intramural sports program. Participation numbers generally reach approximately 1,500 students in the fall and 2,000 in the spring. Flag football usually has the highest participation rate.

The great outdoors of Williamsburg offers stiff competition to the popular Rec Center, as the beauty and accessibility of the area makes it a haven for fitness junkies. On any typical walk to class, the number of runners and bikers who pass by evokes enough guilt to make someone hit the gym, too.



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT
Students learn and practice a routine of hip-hop moves during a Fitwell class.

SUDOKU

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Hard

source: krazydad.com

Enjoy trailing and photographing campus celebs?

We are now looking for a new "That Guy/That Girl" columnist. If you're interested, e-mail Alice Hahn at alice.hahn@flathatnews.com to apply.

INSIDE SPORTS

sports@flathatnews.com

Sports Editor **Jeff Dooley**
Associate Sports Editor **Miles Hilder**
Associate Sports Editor **Andrew Pike**

What's on TV?

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 1 Memphis vs. Gonzaga

—12 p.m. Sat. on ESPN

NBA

Lakers vs. Spurs

—9 p.m. Wed. on ESPN



Sound bytes

"I screwed it up twice.
Thank God we got another
opportunity."

- New York Giants kicker
Lawrence Tynes on hitting
Sunday's game-winner



By the numbers

-1 Temperature at kick-off in Sunday's NFC Championship game at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisc.

FROM THE SIDELINES

Respected Gibbs led Redskins valiantly in '07

Matt Poms

FLAT HAT SPORTS COLUMNIST



In this era of super-sized egos and hypercommercialization, it's easy to become disenfranchised with the major sports leagues. Throughout this year, newspaper headlines all too often reeked of betting scandals, steroids, lawbreakers and tragic deaths.

In this environment, those stories that highlight the more redeeming qualities of sports take on new importance, and none of the events of the past year provided a more inspiring and uplifting storyline than that of the Washington Redskins improbable run to the NFL postseason.

At the heart of that comeback stood one man: the 67 year-old Head Coach Joe Gibbs. His incredible leadership over the second half of the season, and his subsequent retirement merely add to his illustrious legacy.

Gibbs first became Washington's head coach in 1981 and over the next 12 years led the Redskins to three Super Bowl titles, eight playoff appearances and a .671 win percentage. He retired in 1993 and was enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1996. A player's coach, he was beloved by fans, athletes and the media alike, sustaining a demeanor that stood in sharp contrast to the prickly and boorish attitude of the Belichick and Parcells of the coaching world.

It is difficult to add to a reputation as untarnished as Gibbs's, which is why many were shocked when the legendary coach came out of retirement in 2004, taking the helm of the Redskins for a second time. For the first three and a half years of his tenure, Gibbs produced mixed results, leading Washington to the 2006 postseason, but mostly failing to recapture the electric success of his first term. What Gibbs had done, however, was instill a solid base of players around which to build a winning team, a characteristic lacking in the turmoil of the previous decade.

Plans for a breakout 2007 season were seemingly dashed by the tragic mid-season death of star-safety Sean Taylor. Coming on the heels of a demoralizing loss to Tampa Bay, the team was shaken and heartbroken, supposedly and understandably out of the playoff race. Joe Gibbs, however, called on every ounce of his strength and composure to lead the team through the incredible void in their locker room and on to a four-game winning streak, securing the sixth and final NFC post-season slot.

Gibbs' leadership surpassed the regular strategy and management of ordinary coaching, instead calling on another reserve entirely, as he buoyed his team emotionally and psychologically. Exhausted by this effort, he retired for a second time Jan. 8, walking away with his integrity and reputation at peak levels.

He leaves the Redskins with high optimism for the future. The team has compiled a solid core of young players on both sides of the ball, as starters Jason Campbell, Chris Cooley, Carlos Rogers, Rocky Macintosh and LaRon Landry are all primed to be top-notch professionals for years to come.

Yet, as owner Daniel Snyder searches for a new head coach, the team is at a crossroads. The in-house candidate Gregg Williams is the front-runner, bringing the asset of continuity and the respect of the players, both crucial aspects for the organization. While there are certain misgivings with Williams' past head-coaching record, he is the best contender for the job, allowing Washington to build upon their recent success.

However, Snyder is known for being entirely too dependent upon the flashy hire, a trait that has hindered the team tremendously throughout his stewardship. One only needs to invoke the names of Deion Sanders, Steve Spurrier and Adam Archuleta to give Redskins fans a collective shudder. If Snyder chooses to hire a big-name coach, such as USC's Pete Carroll or former Steelers coach Bill Cowher, Washington will be forced to undergo a dramatic transformation, squandering the progress created by Gibbs.

To restore the Redskins to their former glory, Snyder must stifle his ego and build around the capable core of players Gibbs has assembled — any other path would be an insult to Gibbs' tremendous legacy.

E-mail Matt Poms at mbpoms@wm.edu.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Tribe women win fifth-straight meet

Men fall to UNCW, Matthews and Radloff earn multiple individual victories

By **MAGGIE REEB**

Flat Hat Staff Writer

The Tribe women defeated the University of North Carolina Wilmington Seahawks 157-143 Saturday afternoon, pushing its winning streak to five meets, while the men's team fell to the Seahawks 183-115.

The women's team (5-3, 3-1 CAA) won nine out of 16 events, while the men (4-4, 2-2 CAA) had seven victories over the Seahawks. Sophomore Katie Radloff led the women's team with four victories — two in relay races and two in individual freestyle races.

Radloff swam anchor in the meet's first event — the 400-medley relay — along with senior captain Meredith David, sophomore Erin Welshofer and freshman Carolyn Royce. The relay team swam to a victory in 3 minutes and 55.23 seconds — the seventh-best finish time in the College's history. The College's 400-freestyle team of sophomore Lindsay Guers, junior Marina Falcone and senior Christina Monsees touched the wall in 3:31.58, the College's fifth-best performance. Individually, Radloff won the 50-free, timing 23.88 seconds, as well as the 100-free, finishing in 51.38 seconds. These four victories bring the sophomore's career total to 46 victories.

David claimed another victory for the Tribe in the 100-back, finishing in 59.03 seconds, while Guers dominated the 200-free with a time of 1:53.73. Royce placed first in the 100-breast, finishing at 1:08.41, and teammate Welshofer pulled past



COURTESY PHOTO — IRENE ROJAS

Junior Nader Amer competes in Saturday's meet against UNCW. Amer took the 200-fly in a time of 1:58.05.

UNCW in the 200-fly to swim the race in 2:08.04. Freshman Sarah Cannon wrapped up the College's wins by finishing first in the meet's required-list 1-meter diving event.

For the men, junior Shawn Matthews claimed three victories, first in the 400-medley relay with juniors Jason Brisson, Nader Amer and graduate student Nick Duda. The next were two individual wins in the 100-back with 52.64 seconds and the 200-back with a time of 1:55.11.

Several other swimmers claimed victories in individual events. Duda placed first in the 100-free

with a time of 47.84 seconds, bringing his college-career wins to 25. In the 200-fly Amer out-swam the competition with a time of 1:58.05, while sophomore Kevin Gallagher finished first in 200-free in 1:44.55. Freshman Geoff Ramsdell touched the wall at 53.09 seconds in the 100-fly, securing another win for the Tribe.

The women return to the pool Saturday at 1 p.m. for the team's last non-conference meet at the University of Richmond. The men, however, have a two-week break before the team takes on Old Dominion University Feb. 1.

Sumner quietly improves as a sophomore



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT

Sophomore Danny Sumner throws down a two-handed dunk in the first half of Saturday's 61-51 victory over Towson. Sumner scored 10 points in the matinee match-up.

SUMNER from page 8

said. "It's held him back a bit, not being really vocal."

During practices and games, Mann and Head Coach Tony Shaver hope Sumner will speak up, especially on the defensive side of the ball, where team communication is essential.

"Sometimes, he can be painfully quiet," Shaver said.

While he sees room for improvement in Sumner's defense, Shaver said there have been games this season when he's played so well he can't take him out except to give him a moment to catch his breath. Case in point was a 69-66 comeback victory against James Madison Jan. 9, in which Sumner played all but five minutes and scored 17 points, with Kisielius in street clothes on the sideline. During January of last season, Sumner was simply hoping for a chance to prove himself as the third or fourth player off the bench.

For most of his freshman year, he struggled to learn the Tribe's offensive scheme and saw sporadic playing time. In the 21 games he played, Sumner shot only 37 percent from the floor, an abysmal 23 percent from the foul line and 18 percent from three-point range.

"It's a tough offense to learn right away and I wasn't ready to step into

it last season," Sumner said. "I was expecting a lot of playing time coming in last season and I didn't get it. I think that made me go out this summer and work on everything."

During the off season, Sumner committed himself to a rigid training routine. Not only did he bulk up in the weight room, adding 15 pounds of muscle to his 6'7" frame, but he also worked on improving his three-point and field goal percentages. Now the added strength and shooting practice are paying off in big ways. Through 17 games this season, Sumner is making over half of his shots, 66 percent of his free throws and 38 percent beyond the three-point arc.

"This year has really been his coming-out party," Mann said.

Sumner is still not completely satisfied with his play this season and wants to be more consistent. Against Northeastern, he relied almost entirely on his three-point shot and only finished with three points. During Saturday's game a Towson defender stole the ball right out of Sumner's hands when he tried a post up move.

"I need to work on driving and getting to the basket. I'm a better player when I start inside and work my way outside," Sumner said. "It builds my confidence and everything starts flowing from there."

College bests Towson, wins fifth CAA game

MEN'S BASKETBALL from page 8

come with 10:47 left in the first half, when freshman guard John Sexton took a rocket cross-court pass from junior forward Chris Stratton to drain a three-pointer from the corner, bringing the lead to 23-10. The Tigers finished the half on a 17-7 run to cut the Tribe's lead to three at the break.

To start the second half, the College posted an 8-0 run to stretch their lead to 11 at 38-27. The Tigers did not score for the opening six and a half minutes of the second half, yet managed to switch the momentum by hitting three straight three-pointers behind the hot-shooting of guard Tim Crossin to cut the College's lead to 38-36.

The Tigers were unable to get any closer, however, as the Tribe pulled away late in the half with strong defense and solid shooting.

"We have been playing really well in the last five minutes of games," Kisielius said. "We know we have to close games. It is up to the players to play hard on defense and play well together. That is where we win ball games."

The Tribe shot 38 percent from the field to Towson's 32.7 percent. Both teams registered 34 rebounds and the College turned the ball over only eight times, five fewer than the Tigers, including only one miscue in the second half.

The Tribe hits the road to face the Drexel University Dragons Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT

Senior forward Laimis Kisielius takes a shot in a 61-51 win over Towson.



INSIDE SPORTS
SWIMMING
Women get the better of UNCW; men struggle

FROM THE SIDELINES
Matt Poms on Joe Gibbs, D.C.'s coaching vacancy

SPORTS IN BRIEF

MEN'S TENNIS
Tribe sweeps Richmond, Temple, swept by U.Va.

Ranked 43rd in the nation, the College opened their season with a pair of 7-0 victories over Richmond and Temple before falling Sunday to top-ranked Virginia by the same margin. At home in the openers, the Tribe was perfect for the day against both opponents, with junior Dominic Pagon and sophomore Richard Wardell each defeating his opponent and then teaming to win the no. 1 doubles match against Temple. At night against Richmond, as Alex Zuck teamed with Wardell to take the no. 1 doubles point. Two days later in Charlottesville, the story was different as the College was swept in all matches, with no. 1 singles player Alex Cojanu losing to Somdev Devvarman, the top-ranked singles player in the nation.

WOMEN'S TENNIS
No. 15 College goes 1-1 during opening weekend

The 15th-ranked Tribe opened their spring season Saturday, defeating Michigan State 5-2 before falling to no. 7 Northwestern a day later. Against the host Spartans, the College won five of the six singles matches with senior Megan Moulton-Levy, the 12th-ranked player in the country, defeating her opponent and then teaming with junior Katarina Zoricic to form the 46th-ranked doubles team in the nation and take the no. 1 doubles match. Sunday, against the 7th-ranked Wildcats, the College was swept in all matches with Moulton-Levy winning the opening set of her no. 1 singles match before falling to no. 2 Maria Mosolova.

TRACK AND FIELD
Evans, Guevel lead a host of strong performances

The Tribe opened its 2008 campaign in Annapolis Friday at the Navy Invitational, turning in several strong performances. For the men, senior Brandon Evans posted a personal best 6' 8.25" in the high jump to win the event and qualify for the IC4A competition. Sophomore Kiernan Lofland also qualified for the IC4A's, winning the pole vault with a jump of 15' 9." On the women's side, freshman Katie Guevel set her second freshman indoor record of the year, winning the 55m hurdles in 8.24 seconds, qualifying her for the ECAC championships. Additionally, senior Allie Lewis won the 800m with a time of 2:15.91, while junior Lynn Morelli and sophomore Carly Morse won the 3000m and shot put, respectively.

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS
Waldman ties for first as Tribe opens 2008 season

The College opened their season in Washington Sunday, competing in the highly competitive George Washington Invitational. The Tribe finished in last place out of the six teams present, but senior Stevie Waldman turned in a strong performance to share the individual title on bars. Waldman also finished with a total of 37.800 in the all-around, good enough for sixth overall individually. Senior Tricia Long placed strongly on the floor, finishing 10th overall, while also tying Waldman in 12th place on vault.

—By Matt Poms

SCHEDULE

Wed., Jan. 23
MEN'S TENNIS
@ Old Dominion — 5 p.m.
MEN'S BASKETBALL
@ Drexel — 7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 24
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
@ George Mason — 7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 25
TRACK AND FIELD
CNU Captain's Invitational — Newport News

SPORTS FEATURE



COURTESY PHOTO — WILLIAM AND MARY SPORTS INFORMATION
Sophomore forward Danny Sumner is third on the team in scoring with 9.1 points per game, despite getting few opportunities.

Sumner learning how to make his voice heard

Players, coaches try to get quiet sophomore to speak up

By CARL SIEGMUND
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

It's not unusual for men's basketball PA announcer Chuck Wolf to avoid mentioning sophomore forward Danny Sumner's name for long stretches during home games at Kaplan Arena. But this clearly isn't the fault of his not being a regular contributor to the team.

During last Saturday's 61-51 win over Towson, Sumner started his fifth game in a row, played 24 minutes and chipped in 10 points. The simple explanation for this anomaly is that Sumner, known for his tranquil demeanor both on and off the court, scores in short, rapid-fire bursts.

With sophomore point guard David Schneider running most of the Tribe's plays through senior forward Laimis Kisielius and senior three-point specialist Nathan Mann, Sumner has seen a limited amount of offensive touches, even though he ranks third on the team in scoring with 9.1 points per game this season. However, when the ball has been in his hands, he has scored with precision in the paint and beyond the three-point line, displaying versatility as a forward and guard.

Last Saturday, after a relatively quiet first half against Towson, Sumner readied himself to strike again. This time he caught an outlet pass from Schneider at midcourt with 6:58 remaining before halftime and took off toward the basket. For a few seconds, the spotlight shone on Sumner. As the five defenders and his four teammates looked on, he threw down a thunderous two-handed dunk, bringing most of the 2,781 fans at Kaplan Arena to their feet in jubilation and promptly causing Towson to call a timeout to slow the Tribe's momentum.

Walking back to the bench, in the midst of slapping

high-fives with teammates, Sumner's steely, emotionless face cracked for the first time all game as he flashed a rare smile.

"I look laid back when I play, but I'm really intense on the inside," he said.

For a fleeting second, the intensity disappeared as he seemed to be lost in the moment with teammates.

Saturday, Sumner scored half of his points in the game's first 60 seconds. Cutting to the basket for a lay-up, he displayed his breakaway speed on the opening possession. For an encore performance, he drained a three-pointer in his defender's face. After that, he only handled the ball on a few possessions before his aforementioned dunk.

"He's the type of player who can have a quiet 15 minutes and then he'll explode," Mann said.

Highlight reel dunks, quick scoring bursts and a quiet personality on and off the court have all helped Sumner earn a reputation as a silent assassin on a team that has reeled off five consecutive CAA victories for the first time in a decade. In the Tribe's current five-game winning streak, all starts for Sumner, he has averaged 26.8 minutes of playing time, well above his season average of 20.9 minutes.

Well known for his tranquil demeanor, Sumner has at times been overlooked, not only by home fans, but even by teammates on the court. Last Wednesday, during one of the Tribe's fast breaks against Northeastern, a wide-open Sumner had a clear lane to the basket but never received a pass from Schneider.

Off the court, Sumner's teammates and coaches may only hear him speak a few words.

"It's been a group effort to get him to talk more," Mann

See SUMNER page 7



Quietly stepping up

In the seven games during which sophomore Danny Sumner has been in the College's starting lineup, the Tribe is 6-1 and Sumner is averaging 10.9 points per game.

vs. Montreat	@ Hampton	@ ODU	vs. JMU	@ GSU	vs. N.Eastern	vs. Towson
W 87-52	L 70-63	W 70-61	W 69-66	W 60-58	W 55-53	W 61-51
Sumner 16 pts	Sumner 14 pts	Sumner 11 pts	Sumner 17 pts	Sumner 5 pts	Sumner 3 pts	Sumner 10 pts

Photo courtesy of William and Mary Sports Information.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 55, ODU 63

Monarchs reign supreme in tight matchup

Kaylor scores 18 for the Tribe; Heath contributes 16 off the bench

By JACK POLLOCK
Flat Hat Staff Writer



COURTESY PHOTO — JIM AGNEW
Sophomore guard Kelly Heath.

The Tribe put up a strong fight against 15th-ranked Old Dominion University before falling 63-55. The loss drops the Tribe to 8-9 (2-3 CAA) thus far.

Both teams got off to a slow start offensively, with ODU leading 13-10 with 10 minutes left in the first half. The Tribe stayed tough against the Lady Monarchs, who held a significant size advantage, forcing 15 steals and 23 turnovers.

Their defense and hustle kept the College in the first half, trading the lead several times. ODU took a halftime lead of 30-27 following a three-pointer. At the half, sophomore guard Kelly Heath led the team with 10 points, but in the second half senior Kyra Kaylor made the greatest impact.

The Tribe opened the half with a 7-0 run to take a 34-32 lead. ODU quickly answered with an 8-0 run of its own to go up 46-36. As the game progressed, ODU's aggressive defense stifled the College and they maintained a 56-46 lead with 4:10 remaining.

The Tribe forced several stops, and when Kaylor's two jump shots and Courtney Portell's three-pointer fell, they pulled within one with 1:12 remaining. The College's run came to an end following Kaylor's fifth foul, sending her to the bench.

The senior's spirited effort ended, and the Tribe could not find their rhythm or the net as ODU pulled away with a layup and a couple free throws to give them the 63-55 win.

Both teams played with a great deal of spirit and heart in a closely contested match.

"Our team has grown a lot and it makes you excited. These are the games you play college basketball for," Kaylor said.

The Tribe played tough, tying the Lady Monarchs in rebounds at 41 apiece. The College also capitalized on foul shots, going 18-20 from the line, but they had trouble finding the net on offense.

"We didn't shoot well," Head Coach Debbie Taylor said. "I think we gave it everything we had defensively and the statistics are all congruent except for shooting percentage."

ODU shot 39 percent from the field, while the College shot 28.8 percent.

Kaylor led the team with 18 points, eight rebounds and four steals, and Heath provided 16 points off the bench.

The Tribe heads to George Mason University Thursday to take on the Patriots. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 61, TOWSON 51

Tribe takes out Tigers to extend win streak

Kisielius records game highs with 17 points and nine rebounds

By CHRIS WEIDMAN
Flat Hat Staff Writer

After taking an early lead, the men's basketball team staved off late rallies from the Towson University Tigers (6-11 2-5 CAA) to capture a 61-51 victory Saturday at Kaplan Arena.

The College improved to 9-8 (5-2 CAA) on the season and extended their winning streak to five games, the longest in over 10 years for the Tribe.

After falling behind early in recent games, the Tribe came out with a sense of urgency and registered the game's first 12 points. Sophomore forward Danny Sumner opened the game with five straight points to set the tone for the College, as Towson was unable to take the lead once during the game.

"We played hard all night long," Head Coach Tony Shaver said. "We were very consistent on defense and held some really good offensive players [on Towson] to a few looks."

The College was paced by the all-around play of senior forward Laimis Kisielius who tallied game highs with 17 points and nine rebounds. The Tribe had four players in double-digit scoring and four players with five or more rebounds.

The College saw its biggest lead of the night

See MEN'S BASKETBALL page 7



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT
Junior forward Peter Stein.